AGA Federal Oversight Companion Survey: Focusing on 20/20 Communications



President's Council on Integrity and Efficiency

Executive Council on Integrity and Efficiency







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Overview



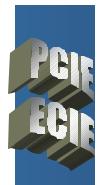
- Strategic Focus
- IGs and CFOs--Areas of Agreement
- Stakeholders Impacting Oversight
- OIG Accomplishments
- Future Direction for IG Community



Background



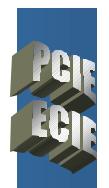
- HHS IG established 1976
- ▼ IG Act of 1978 established IGs in 12 Federal agencies
- ▼ IG Act Amendments of 1988 established IGs at designated Federal entities
- ▼ 57 OIGs provide oversight for 59 agencies



Background



- Conduct independent and objective audits, investigations, and inspections
- Prevent and detect waste, fraud, and abuse
- Promote economy, effectiveness, and efficiency
- Review pending legislation and regulation
- Keep agency head and Congress fully and currently informed



Background

- President's Council on Integrity and Efficiency (PCIE) and Executive Council on Integrity and Efficiency (ECIE)
 - The PCIE was established by Executive Order in March 1981
 - ▼ The ECIE was established by Executive Order in May 1992
 - 28 PCIE and 29 ECIE members
 - OMB, Office of Government Ethics, Office of Special Counsel, FBI, and OPM



Strategic Focus

Vision Statement

- To be an effective and influential force in identifying vulnerabilities and facilitating government excellence
- ▼ To lead and promote integrity, accountability, and excellence in governance through efforts to prevent and detect fraud, waste, and abuse



Strategic Focus



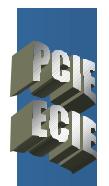
- Independently anticipate and communicate weaknesses and vulnerabilities of the government
- Facilitate solutions
- Identify opportunities for improved performance



Strategic Focus

■ Strategic Themes

- Shaping good government
- ▼ Taking care of our people
- Protecting the integrity, effectiveness, and image of the OIG community



IGs and CFOs: Areas of Agreement

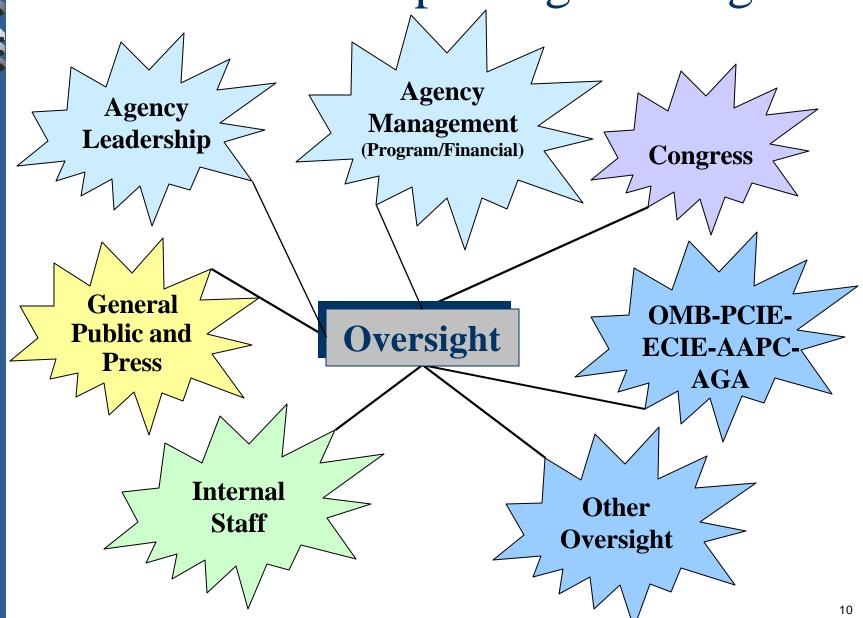
- Desire for Similar Goals
 - Improved operations
 - Share best practices
 - Growing and prosperous partnerships
 - Open lines of trust and communication



IGs and CFOs: Areas of Agreement

- Good Communication is Key
 - Frank and open dialogue ensures attention on needed areas
 - Clear understanding as to roles and responsibilities
 - Address areas of frustration (i.e., planning, ground rules, etc.)
 - Trust is vital
 - Cooperation is critical









▼ Best Practices

- Keep leadership informed
- Participation in planning process
- Institutional respect
- Unified focus toward agency success
- Solution-oriented language directed at process improvements
- Input in resolving audit recommendations





- Standardized orientation on IG Act
- IG should be "right hand" of Agency head
- Ensure IG seen as independent yet part of Agency management team



Congress

▼ Best Practices

- Proactive communication
- Seek clarification on requests and ground rules for conducting review
- Obtain input for IG planning process
- Sensitive to meeting Congress' needs while avoiding agency alienation





- Responsibility to address substantial noncompliance
- Increase hearings by IG oversight committee
- Standardized orientation on IG Act to expand understanding of IG roles and responsibilities





▼ Best Practices

- Empowered and informed employees
- Emphasize communication, consistency and solution-oriented reports
- Maintain awareness of political environment
- Acknowledge/reward productive staff





- Constant focus on good communication and working environments
- More flexible hiring incentives
- Increased use of informal management services





- ▼ Best Practices
 - Proactive public relations
 - Respond to all inquiries
 - Issue reports as public documents
 - Designate only top managers empowered to speak to press





- Balance the rewards and possible consequences
- Present united front by issuing joint press releases on high visibility reports/issues
- Include government auditing in university curriculum





▼ Best Practices

- Networking
- Sharing specialized skills
- Partnering with contractors
- Coordinating review starts
- Participating in guidance setting bodies





- Stronger PCIE/ECIE agenda
- Facilitate sharing expertise
- Stronger positive voice across government on roles, responsibilities, and standard setting



OIG Accomplishments

- Fiscal Year 1999 Results (July 2000 Report)
 - Nearly \$10.5 billion in recommendations for more efficient use of funds
 - ▼ More than \$8.2 billion in potential savings
 - Over 13,000 criminal prosecutions
 - ▼ Nearly 6,700 barred from doing business
 - ▼ Over 1,200 civil actions



OIG Accomplishments

- Fiscal Year 1999 Focus (July 2000 Report)
 - Y2K Readiness
 - Information Technology
 - System Security
 - ▼ GPRA
 - Integrity and Accountability



Future Direction of IG Community

- Integrity of Public Programs
- Financial Accountability
- E-Government
- Critical Infrastructure
- Human Capital



Questions?